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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Currently Amended) A multimedia mailbox system, comprising:
 - a) a message store for storing multimedia messages; and
- b) a plurality of data converters for converting messages in one medium to messages in another medium, wherein the conversion of messages is based upon a set of user-definable parameters, said set of user-definable parameters including sender information, message priority and summarization rules and wherein messages are only converted when determined urgent based upon sender information and message priority, the summarization rules reducing messages to a list of keywords from a plurality of lists of keywords, each keyword of each list being selectable by a user, said list of keywords applied to the messages being based upon the sender information.
- 2. (Original) A system according to claim 1 wherein said plurality of data converters includes at least two selected from the group consisting of a text to speech converter, a speech to text converter, and a fax to text converter.
- 3. (Original) A system according to claim 1 further comprising means for linguistically based searching of multiple message types and for linguistically relating multiple messages of different type.

4-6. (Canceled)

- (Currently Amended) A multimedia mailbox system, comprising:
 - a) a message store for storing multimedia messages;
 - a plurality of data converters for converting messages in one medium to messages in another medium; and

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c) means for linguistically based searching of multiple message types and for linguistically relating multiple messages of different type, wherein the conversion of messages is based upon a set of user-definable parameters, said set of user-definable parameters including sender information, message priority and summarization rules and wherein messages are only converted when determined urgent based upon sender information and message priority, the summarization rules reducing messages to a list of keywords from a plurality of lists of keywords, each keyword of each list being selectable by a user, said list of keywords applied to the messages being based upon the sender information.

- 8. (Original) A system according to claim 7 wherein said plurality of data converters includes at least two selected from the group consisting of a text to speech converter, a speech to text converter, and a fax to text converter.
- 9. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a multimedia malibox, comprising the steps of:
 - a) storing messages of different types in a single mailbox; and
- b) automatically converting messages from one medium to another, wherein the conversion of messages is based upon a set of user-definable parameters, said set of user-definable parameters including sender information, message priority and summarization rules and wherein messages are only converted when determined urgent based upon sender information and message priority, the summarization rules reducing messages to a list of keywords from a plurality of lists of keywords, each keyword of each list being selectable by a user, said list of keywords applied to the messages being based upon the sender information.
- 10. (Original) A method according to claim 9 wherein said step of converting includes at least-two selected from the group consisting of converting text to speech, converting speech to text, and converting fax to text.

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11. (Original) A method according to claim 9 further comprising the step of linguistically searching multiple message types and linguistically relating multiple messages of different type.

12-14. (Canceled)

- 15. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a multimedia mailbox, comprising the steps of:
 - a) storing messages of different types in a single mailbox;
 - b) automatically converting messages from one medium to another,
- c) linguistically searching multiple message types and linguistically relating multiple messages of different type, wherein the conversion of messages is based upon a set of user-definable parameters, said set of user-definable parameters including sender information, message priority and summarization rules and wherein messages are only converted when determined urgent based upon sender information and message priority, the summarization rules reducing messages to a list of keywords from a plurality of lists of keywords, each keyword of each list being selectable by a user, said list of keywords applied to the messages being based upon the sender information.
- 16. (Original) A method according to claim 15 wherein said step of converting includes at least two selected from the group consisting of converting text to speech, converting speech to text, and converting fax to text.

17-22. (Canceled)